GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3633
ANSWERED ON:21.03.2001
AMENDMENTS IN DRUGS AND COSMETICS RULES
SRINIVASULU KALAVA

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have proposed certain amendments to Drugs and Cosmetics Rules;

(b) if so, whether an expert committee has been constituted as per directives of the Supreme Court and the National Human Rights Commission to weed out spurious drugs from the market;

(c) if so, the extent to which the Ministry has obtained help from the State Governments to tune up the Drugs Act;

(d) whether any Legislation is being considered in this regard; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA)

(a) to (e) The problem of spurious drug is tackled primarily by the State Drugs Control Authorities who enforce the provision of the Drugs and Cosmetics Act 1940 by undertaking surveillance to curb such activity and launching prosecutions under the Act when such activity comes to light.

The Drug Controller has advised the State Drug Controllers to take the following measure in this regard:

a) Constitution/reactivation of State Drug Advisory Committees.
b) Establishment of separate intelligence cum legal machinery with police assistance.
c) Engaging experienced counsel for fighting spurious drug cases.
d) Surveillance of suspected dealers.
e) Cooperation of Pharmaceutical Industry by regular interaction with them.
f) Collection of Survey sample under National Survey Quality Evaluation of Drug (NSQED) programme.

No directives have been issued by the Supreme Court and National Human RightsCommission to Constitute an Expert Committees to weed out spurious drugs from the market.

The Government has not proposed any amendment to Drugs and Cosmetics Rules nor is any legislation under consideration for this purpose.